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Soccer Ace Neymar Denied PokerStars Titans Event Victory

October 23, 2024 Matthew Pitt Senior Editor

Brazilian soccer sensation Neymar "neymar-jr" Jr. came

agonizingly close to taking down the latest edition of the \$5,200 Titans Event at PokerStars this weekend, ultimately having to make do with a runner-up finish. Although Neymar collected \$66,056 for his bridesmaid finish, he will be bitterly disappointed not to have come out on top and added

the Titans Event title to his long list of personal accomplishments.

Neymar fans will likely see more of their hero at the live and virtual felts in the coming months because he faces a spell on the

sidelines. Last week, while representing his country in a World Cup qualifying game against Uruguay, Neymar landed awkwardly and left the field in tears on a stretcher. Tests later confirmed a meniscus tear injury to Neymar's

knee and a season-ending Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) tear. Neymar faces up to a year in the treatment room.

Soccer's loss looks to be poker's gain. Neymar decided to fire up PokerStars on October 22 and flick in the \$5,200 buy-in for the Titans

Event. It was a drop in the ocean for the man who recently put pen to paper on a two-year deal worth a reported \$219 million annually.

But as Team PokerStars' Rafael Moraes revealed to PokerNews last year, Neymar does not play poker for the money; he just wants to win.

\$5,200 Titans Event Final Table Results

Rank Player Country Prize 1 Dominykas "Mikensonas" Mikolaitis Lithuania \$91,663 2 Neymar "neymar-jr" Jr. Brazil \$66,056

3 drew.derzh Ukraine \$47,602 4 Rajadanaativ Brazil \$34,304 5 Christian "WAT

nos" Rudolph Austria \$24,720 6 Benjamin "benccb789" Rolle Austria \$17,814 7 Stumpfed Canada \$12,837

This weekend's Titan Event saw 59 entries processed, a lower than usual number, partly because many of the tournament's regulars were

traveling home from the PokerStars European Poker Tour Cyprus festival. The compact field meant only the top seven finishers received some of the \$

295,000 prize pool.

"Jesper" was the only player to reach the final table.